

Bonhomme, Penny

From: Jaime Rotatori [jaimern@ymail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 11:58 PM

To: PHC Testimony

Subject: testimony raised bill No. 5333

To Whom it may Concern:

I am writing this on behalf of the ***Raised Bill No. 5333.***

Aaron was nineteen days old when he was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy (a weakening of the heart muscle). Aaron spent seventy three days waiting for his new heart. He celebrated his first birthday in the hospital, as well as learned to say, "Mama", and get his first few teeth. Watching your child's health decline before your eyes and being helpless is one of the worst feelings in the world. Seeing Aaron go from all smiles to a look of, "Mommy, help me" was heartbreaking. He had lost all of his energy, smiles and good nature. So had I. When we received the call, I was beside myself and Aaron's father was in disbelief. Thanks to his donor family, Aaron was going to live.

Aaron was discharged two weeks after transplant. He has returned to the smiley little boy that he was. Since his heart transplant, Aaron has grown in leaps and bounds. Looking at him, you would never know that he almost lost his life. However, with organ donation, and the miracle gift from his donor family, Aaron is an active five year old, attending kindergarten and participating in activities, such as karate. We could not be happier. June 20, 2007 is a day that will never be forgotten in my family. Aaron, a thirteen month old little boy, was given a second chance at life. Through the generosity of a family grieving from the loss of their child, my child got to live. Without organ donation, Aaron would not be with us today.

Five years ago, Aaron was given a second chance. A chance to experience everything that life has to offer. Through organ donation, he can run around and play with his friends. Aaron can help bake cookies for Santa and roll on the floor with his dogs. Please support this bill and give others the chance to experience all that life has to offer, through the gift of life.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jaime Rotatori
(mother to heart transplant recipient, Aaron Rotatori)